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Docket No. PCTUS-28TECH CENTER 2800
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent application of:
FAOUR, J. et al.

Serial No.: 09/770,901
Filed: January 26, 2001

For: Pharmaceutical compositions containing
A COX-II inhibitor and a muscle
relaxant

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

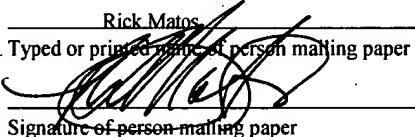
Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1614
Examiner: N/A

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 25, 2001.

Rick Matos
Typed or printed name of person mailing paper


Signature of person mailing paper

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants hereby request amendment of the application as filed. Entry of the present amendment into the record is requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 33, line 12, replace "a controlled" with -- an immediate -- and replace "an immediate" with -- a controlled --.

On page 41, line 9, replace "a controlled" with -- an immediate -- and replace "an immediate" with -- a controlled --.

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 remain pending and unchanged in this application.

The specification has been amended to reconcile the release profiles with the construction of the respective dosage forms. Applicants respectfully submit that no new subject matter has been added by way of amendment. Example 3 (page 33) and Example 13 (page 41) are osmotic device formulations that contain a muscle relaxant in the core and a COX-II inhibitor on an outer coat.

Due to their construction and composition, these osmotic devices provide a controlled release of the muscle relaxant (pridinol) and a rapid release of the COX-II inhibitor (rofecoxib).

A substitute copy of pages 33 and 41 are enclosed herewith.

Consideration of the pending claims and an early notice of allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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